



*Dr. Mary L. Livers, Deputy Secretary*

I love April. April is proof that winter is truly over for another year and we can enjoy outdoor activity, at least until high summer.

And, I love reading *The Inside Scoop...of OJJ*. I really enjoy finding out what is going on throughout OJJ-Land. I'm sure that you all realize that our agency, though small in total number of staff, is spread out in 16 locations all over the state, soon to be 17 when we open Columbia Center for Youth later this year. While we are small in number, I think our agency has a greater impact on the citizens of Louisiana than most people realize. I wish everybody knew how hardworking and dedicated OJJ staff are. If only everyone could read *The Inside Scoop*....oh, but they can – each issue is posted on our website under the Newsroom link. If you would like to share our newsletter with others, feel free to forward the email or refer people to the website.

As ever, this issue is filled with good news and notes about the activities that you are doing as you carry out our mission. It's always interesting to see that many OJJ staff seem to spend their personal time doing much the same as what they do professionally. You are the best group that anyone could ever work with – you make OJJ proud!

*“Doc” Dr. Mary L. Livers*

## The Daily Motivator

### Invest yourself

The times when you experience the highest level of fulfillment are the times when you give the most of yourself. The moments that are most meaningful are the moments into which you invest your effort, your energy and your commitment.

If you do just enough to get by, that's precisely what will happen -- you'll just get by. Yet when you truly invest yourself in life, with your time and work and attention, the dividends will be rich indeed.

It is your great fortune to be alive and living, aware and capable on this day that is filled with endless possibilities. You can squander that fortune or you can choose to expand and enlarge it even further.

The best that life has to offer cannot be bought with money. It can only be earned with your time, your effort, your attention and commitment. Accomplishment and fulfillment cannot be purchased off the shelf. They come as a result of what you're willing to give.

Invest the best of yourself in this day, in this moment, in the great experience of living. It's an investment that will continue to pay increasingly valuable returns.

— Ralph Marston

*The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.*

— Stephen Covey

## Staff Spotlight

### Spotlight on...

**Paulette  
Carter,  
Program  
Specialist,  
New Orleans-  
Jefferson  
Regional Office**



New Orleans native **Paulette Carter** figured out what she wanted to do and where she wanted to work while still in college at University of New Orleans. In 1980 as a sociology student, she had a field placement opportunity at the New Orleans youth services office, and enjoyed it so much that she decided then that was the place for her.

In 1982 Paulette graduated with a bachelor's degree plus certification in social work under a consortium program between UNO and Southern University in New Orleans (SUNO). She found a job as a welfare eligibility specialist with DHHR, and waited for an opening with youth services. That opportunity opened in 1984 and Paulette signed on as a Probation and Parole Officer. This year will mark 29 years of state service, with almost 27 years with youth services. After five years of experience as a PPO she promoted to supervisor and kept on going.

"Probation and Parole Programs Specialist Paulette Carter is a huge asset to the New Orleans Regional Office," said **Regional Manager Kelly Clement**. "She is routinely assigned special projects and willingly accepts challenges without complaint. Paulette is one of those people who will do whatever you ask her to do and does it well. She is my 'right hand Woman.' She wears many hats and runs the New Orleans office in my absence. She is very dedicated and cares deeply about the youth we serve. Paulette is always going out of her way to assist coworkers and routinely provides guidance and support. She is very active in her church, Greater St. Stephen's Full Gospel Church, and she was

honored recently by the church as Woman of the Year Interpreter for their Deaf Ministry - Sign and Wonders Ministries. Paulette also has the privilege of being one of the writers for a sitcom entitled Driven, produced by Greater Motion Pictures. It made its debut in November 2010. Her coworkers say 'she is a real good listener' and a mentor."

"Things have changed dramatically since I started," Paulette said. "But what has not changed is my love for the job, my passion for helping our kids, and my drive to do the best I can. I still enjoy my work, being able to impact the lives of individuals and help them to become successful in life."

"I love kids," Paulette continued. "I have no kids of my own, so I take care of other people's children. That's why I chose this profession. This is not a job, it's a calling."

"We are doing a lot of good, and there are many dedicated people here," Paulette said. "You turn on the television, and every day, someone is murdered. That makes me want to work even harder. We have it in our hearts and we need to be here doing our jobs. We care about these kids and we want to impart the knowledge they need to live, and to guide them in the right direction. When the staff gets weary, we need to encourage them. This job does something to you – you want to do your best."

Being a program specialist means that Paulette does not work with children and families daily any longer. "We audit the different contract programs and make sure they are in compliance with the contract requirements," she said. "We see what is happening with the program, and render assistance where needed. But I still interface with the kids in those programs, and I see how they feel about the services, find out what improvements are needed, and make recommendations to improve the programs."

Paulette also supervises special or sensitive cases, as well as the two transport officers,

and she is the agency representative on several community committees.

**"...little things often make a difference. An encouraging word goes a long way."**

"Since I no longer interface with the clients who come through the office, I take every opportunity when I am in the waiting area, to speak with them," Paulette said. "I don't ignore anyone. Usually the adults will reply but the kids don't. So I try to compliment the kids on something, like saying what a nice looking young man you are, or such a pretty young lady. Then the kids will engage with you. We have to realize that little things often make a difference. An encouraging word goes a long way."

"I miss working with the kids, so I take every opportunity to say something to them when I see them," Paulette continued. "That's why we are here, if there are no kids, we don't have a job. We are here to serve, and I try to make a difference – in a positive way."

When RM Kelly Clement is out of the office, Paulette is more directly involved with the supervisors. "I enjoy guiding the supervisors and participating in staffings," she said.

Paulette also serves as the safety officer for the region. "That is not something I have done before, and I find it interesting," she noted. "Safety issues often deal with policies, and I have to study them to make sure we are in compliance."

"When I walk through the building, I know how blessed I am," Paulette noted. "I have a job, I can be effective. I am still learning, still improving myself. Every time I get the challenge, I enjoy re-inventing myself. I look at the stuff I learned in the past and I am fascinated – I am always thinking about something I can do to accomplish more and do the right things."

“God gives us a lot of gifts, but we tend to focus on one thing,” she said. “We should take advantage of this life we are given, every day and every moment.”

Paulette serves as Director of the Counseling Ministry at her church. “I feel very honored to have been chosen for this church position by my pastor,” Paulette said.

Paulette’s other passions, aside from her work, are reading, and writing. She recently completed writing a book and will soon seek a publisher. “The book is about being single, saved and satisfied,” Paulette said. “There is so much pressure on people to have someone in your life. We have to wait on God to bring the right person into your life, but in the meantime, there are things you can do to render assistance to others and enjoy life.”

**“Paulette is all about helping others, whether in her professional life or her personal activities.”**

Paulette loves poetry – to read and to write. “My way of expressing myself is through poetry,” she said. “I like to talk about the beauty of life.” She attended a poetry contest in San Francisco some time ago, that attracted the “who’s who” of American poets. Some of her work was published in the book created for the event.

Paulette is also a writer for a stage sitcom as part of her church’s drama ministry. This is a form of writing she had never done before. It became so successful that the show moved to the Contemporary Arts Center. “The shows are all live and we have had a really good turnout,” Paulette said. “It’s so exciting to work with professional actors – some of them act in the television show **Treme**.”

Weekend excursions to church conventions and seminars help to keep Paulette motivated. She attends two or three such events a year, and learns self-growth, motivation and empowerment – qualities that help her to help others. Paulette is all about helping others,

whether in her professional life or her personal activities.

“People ask why I learned American Sign Language,” Paulette said. “It is a means of helping to connect the deaf with the hearing world. Our deaf church members need a way to connect the two worlds, and I can render assistance. I really enjoy communicating with members of the deaf community. I’m very thankful that I made that decision.”

“The deaf are so much more expressive,” she went on, “they share through their emotions. They communicate with their hands and mannerisms. It’s such a beautiful language.”

“I take pride in doing the best I can in my job, giving a hundred percent. It is such a humbling experience to be recognized for what I’ve done,” she said. “You know, it’s so important to have someone take note – it makes you want to come in every morning and give your all regardless of whether you are being watched. This is more than a job, it’s what we have been designed to do – to serve young people, their families and even the people we work with.”

“My job parallels my life greatly,” Paulette said. “OJJ is always seeking better, more advanced and effective ways of providing services to our clientele, and I’m always seeking opportunities for self-improvement so that I can be more effective in my dealings with others. “If I can be a positive force and assist in creating the right kind of environment to work in, to use my leadership abilities, and be appreciated for the job I am doing, it makes a big difference,” Paulette said, with tears in her eyes. “It’s a great feeling and helps to motivate me to continue.”

Perhaps Paulette never realized that when you work as hard as she does, make a difference in the lives of the children we serve, and meet our mission daily, that people **are** watching, all the time. Good role models are hard to find, especially when they unconsciously model the way for others.



## Annual LaMOD Update Meeting Held

The annual LaMOD update meeting was held March 17 in Alexandria. Speakers included **Deputy Secretary Dr. Mary Livers, DAS Sean C. Hamilton, Director of Treatment Annette Arthur** and **Program Manager/LaMOD Coordinator Arlona Morgan**.

Leadership and staff from each facility discussed goal setting, timelines and staff responsibilities to accomplish the steps needed to move LaMOD forward. Changes to the Code of Conduct policy were reviewed in an effort to eliminate minor offenses.

Sean Hamilton noted that the people who attended the meeting are the leaders who help the agency do its daily work. He said that the challenges that the facilities had last year with the LaMOD process would be examined.

Attendees broke into groups to discuss challenges impeding the progress of LaMOD, reasons the facilities have not been able to move forward, what staff have done to cope with this issue, possible solutions to overcoming these issues that have not been tried, and solutions needing intervention by central office administrators.

When Dr. Livers asked how many attendees were new in their role, many hands went up. She said that all of us have a lot of learning to do, and asked how many have grown since last year. Again, many people raised their hands. She asked **MYSI Consultant Louis Moten**, a guest at the meeting, how long it took Missouri to achieve what they have accomplished. Mr. Moten said it took Missouri about 33 years to get where they are. Dr. Livers noted that we are young in the process, but we have come a long way already. She said that we are better than last year and we will be even better next year. If we need to change policies to accomplish our goals, she said, we will do that. We will use

the Guiding Principles, come together as a team, and support the mission.

Probation and Parole staff noted that staff in the non-secure facilities are also still learning the LaMOD process.

Annette Arthur told the group that last year, the idea of removing minor violations was introduced, and the code of conduct policy is now being revised. Minor violations will no longer be included in the code of conduct and will be handled informally through counseling and circle-ups. If youth continue to exhibit negative behavior, some consequences can be imposed, but the staff must be consistent and follow up on the consequences. They will document the issue of the consequence in the Daily Observation Binder and communicate with other group members. Annette said that since minor offenses will no longer be part of the progress report for custody classification, more youth may be recommended for step-down, furloughs and escorts.

Dr. Livers noted that some of the minor offenses are just adolescent behaviors, and youth should not be held back for exhibiting normal behaviors. Unless it is a major issue, these should not be listed in the youth's progress report.



*Refreshments served at the annual LaMOD meeting included this gorgeous cupcake cake designed by Director of Treatment Annette Arthur.*

## Transitions

### Comings and Goings.....

#### New Faces

#### Bridge City Center for Youth

Robert Drake – JJS 3

Gerald Posey – JJS 3

Anthony Sparks – JJS 1

## Promotions

#### Bridge City Center for Youth

Lisa Poche – JJS 3

Gladys Wilson – JJS

#### Swanson Center for Youth

Julia Jackson – JJS 4

Donald Price – Plumber/Pipefitter

## Departures

#### Central Office

Jenny Borders, Contract/Grants Reviewer

Elaine Buzbee, Procurement Specialist

## Thibodaux Regional Office

### Congratulations

**PPO Lori Babin** was selected **March Employee of the Month**. Lori began her state service in November 1981 with the Office of Family Security as a receptionist. She transferred to OJJ, then known as Division of Youth Services, in November 1982 as a word processor operator. Lori transitioned to Probation Officer in February 2002. She is a proud mom of two boys, Kendall and Chase. Kendall is married and has one child, Annabelle Rose. Chase is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year culinary student at Nicholls State University's John Folse Culinary Institute in Thibodaux. Lori is

an extraordinary probation officer and a valuable asset to our team here in Thibodaux.

Youth **Kaemon P.** graduated from the Youth Challenge Program in Carville in March. **Allison Lirette** is his PPO.

## Tallulah Regional Office

**PPO2 Fred Laing** assisted with the firearms training at the Adult Probation and Parole Academy in March.

## Community Relations

**PPO3 Truett Glass** was invited by **Nancy Owens** of the Tensas Academy High School to speak to her 10th grade social studies class about the functions of the juvenile justice system. Her students had recently toured the Louisiana State Penitentiary. They also had the privilege of having Tensas Parish **Sheriff Rickey Jones** speak to them on the criminal justice system in their area.

Truett enjoyed speaking with the students, who had a very good understanding of how the criminal justice system functioned. They were quick to point out that what they have seen on television is not a true representation.

Truett gave the students a brief overview of how youth come into our system and the path they take to move past the juvenile justice system. He also gave a brief overview of the Office of Juvenile Justice and received numerous questions about the similarities of adult prisons and juvenile centers for youth. He conveyed OJJ's goals of supporting juveniles who enter our system and returning them to their communities quickly with the support of community based programs.

Truett's visit with Tensas Academy was a great community relations event and enjoyable for all.

## Swanson Center for Youth

### SS Counselor Dixon Ordained Deacon

In February **Mr. Onufrey Jerome Dixon, Social Services Counselor 3**, became an ordained deacon. After a year of study, Mr. Dixon and four other members of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Monroe were ordained by **Pastor Ike Byrd III**.



*Onufrey Jerome, left, and wife Tammy Dixon, with Pastor Ike Byrd at the deacon ordination.*

### Staff Development News

Six LSU staff and two OJJ staff graduated from pre-service training in March.

Seven existing staff members graduated from the LAMOD class, including **JJS2 Donna Haley, JJS1 Willis Hollis, Maintenance Repairer Foreman Ronnie Massey, JJS2 Shontesa Smith, Maintenance Repairer 2 Chris Weaver** (who is taking care of our Columbia Facility), **JJS2 Sandra Tribble** and **JJS 2 Jeffery Trichell**.

A new Pre-Service class began in March, consisting of 12 Juvenile Justice Specialists and one maintenance staff person, for a total of 13 new members of the SCY team.

## School-Wide Positive Behavior Support

School Wide Positive Behavior Support (SWPBS) was adopted in Louisiana in response to the Juvenile Justice Reform Act 1225 in 2003, which directed schools to develop plans to improve behavior and discipline utilizing positive behavioral supports and other effective disciplinary tools for supporting student behavior and discipline. SWPBS is a process, not a program. When implemented correctly it improves school climate, increases safety, improves academic progress and decreases behavior problems. The school creates a positive learning environment rather than a punitive response to inappropriate behavior.

One aspect of SWPBS is the reward system. Students are rewarded for exhibiting positive behavior with an immediate reward such as a "good behavior ticket." A token economy is set up to provide additional value to the reward to increase and maintain appropriate behavior. A token economy is a system of individual reinforcement of target behaviors in which tokens are given to students, which they can exchange for backup reinforcers. To be successful, a person must be reinforced for increasing or decreasing existing behavior, as well as successive approximations of the behaviors we wish to establish.

Competition among classrooms/dorms and individuals is promoted to encourage school-wide and individual participation. Learning social skills is part of the process. We assume that not all youth clearly understand the importance of appropriate and socially acceptable behaviors. We also assume that not all students have been exposed to what respect of self, others and the environment looks like.

What does respecting self, others and environment look like in the classroom, cafeteria, assembly, recreation and library? A teaching matrix assists teachers/staff in pointing out to the student what they did correctly, and shows appropriate behaviors that should be modeled by the teacher/staff.

## SWPBS at Southside Alternative High School

The leadership team collects data from the teachers/staff and discipline referrals to monitor and identify problem areas in the school. The leadership team meets monthly to review the data. The team relies on accurate and reliable discipline referral data (student, problem behavior, time, and place) to understand the behaviors occurring in the school. This information is already being collected by the legal department at SCY. An analysis of the data allows the team to identify problem areas and brainstorm for interventions with support on an individual, school wide and/or classroom basis.

The Southside Alternative High School - School Wide Positive Behavior Support leadership team selected R.O.S.E. as an acronym for Respect for Others, Self and Environment. These are the core values (expectations) we feel should be reinforced.

Each teacher/staff is given 20 tickets each week. The number series is recorded so that tickets may be identified in case of theft. We documented how many tickets are presented to students and how many are returned unused. This allows the leadership team to judge participation by the teacher/staff and the correlation to any behavioral problems.

Each student may earn up to 25 tickets per week. Based on the data we have collected over many weeks, it appears the highest earner has received about 15 tickets per week. The most popular reward items require 15 tickets; this should encourage the youth to work harder each week.

Our goal is for all students to work toward earning 100% of the tickets available to them. 25 tickets = 100 %; 20 tickets = 80%; 15 tickets = 60 %

R.O.S.E. tickets are given to students randomly when they exhibit a behavior that shows **Respect for Others, Self and**

**Environment.** When a student is “caught being good” he will receive a R.O.S.E. ticket immediately as positive reinforcement. Praise should *always* accompany the dispensing of tickets. The praise should specifically describe the positive behavior and how it relates to Respect for Others, Self and Environment. Both the token and the praise should be delivered quickly and unobtrusively so as to cause as little interruption as possible.

All students should have the opportunity to earn tickets. Tickets should be given to students fairly and without bias. All appropriate behaviors are to be recognized even if they are rare, uncommon, usual, extraordinary, atypical, odd or infrequent, to assist in motivating students to become mature, productive citizens.

A student is automatically disqualified for the class period if he requests a ticket. Teacher/staff should have R.O.S.E. tickets with them at all times (assembly, lunch duty and library, etc). Other staff may observe students to “catch a student being good.”



*Theresa McNease and Holly York with the Wii in the R.O.S.E. store.*

Appropriate behavior is learned as they practice and are reinforced for exhibiting expected behaviors. Students may not receive a ticket each time they exhibit a desired behavior. This is called an intermittent reinforcement, meaning that each instance of a desired behavior is not reinforced.

Students are not required to keep up with their tickets. Teachers/staff turn in the used



R.O.S.E tickets each Friday. The tickers are counted by staff each week and maintained in a database to eliminate swapping or giving away tickets. Students who qualify will be escorted to the R.O.S.E. store to spend their tickets each Friday.

What is a ticket worth? 15 tickets can purchase 30 minutes with a Wii game, a movie or a 15 minute phone call. Ten tickets may be redeemed for snacks and items such as fruit roll-ups, granola bars, toothpaste, fruit juice or punch, popcorn. Candy bars or chips cost 5 tickets, while as little as one ticket is worth 10 pieces of candy. A student must have more than 5 tickets to enter the R.O.S.E. store. Youth may carry over only 5 tickets from their unused balance in any week. All food items must be consumed before leaving the R.O.S.E. store.

The immediate reinforcement is the R.O.S.E. ticket. The long term reinforcement is the purchase power of the tickets.



*In the ROSE Store are Theresa McNease, Jamie Smith, Joy Lee, Rukiya Manuel, Deborah Herrington and Holly York.*



*Easter Bunny????*

## Shreveport Regional Office

Shreveport OJJ's **Employee of the Month** for March was **Transport Officer Charles Davis**. He was recognized for being a great asset to office.

**PPS Guy May, PPS Steve Martino** and several **PPOs** participated in reclassification staffings for youth at Swanson in March.

Shreveport OJJ staff completed PPCT recertification, conducted by **PPO Todd Carlisle**.

After-hours curfew checks were conducted under the supervision of **PPS Steve Martino** and **PPS Guy May**.

**PPO Dwain Wilemon** attended graduation ceremonies for LA Youth Challenge at Camp Minden.

**PPS Kim Scott-Carlisle, PS Jan Crain** and **PPO Todd Carlisle** attended a ceremony at Caddo Juvenile Court in which a veteran's memorial the "Wounded Warrior" was dedicated.

## New Orleans /Jefferson Regional Office

### Stanley Schofield Rides Again



**PPO3 Stanley Schofield** was privileged to be the guest speaker at Dillard University in New Orleans, as he presented words of encouragement and hope to their Juvenile Justice class in March. Stanley is an inspiration for our community as he strives to change our children's minds, hearts and lives. OJJ is truly set apart to have such a jewel advocating for what is true, honest and right for our families.

## Natchitoches Regional Office

### Congratulations



*Employee of the Month was  
Administrative Coordinator 4  
Rosa Brownlee.*

### Community Involvement

**Nelda Graham, SSC4** hosted a Social Work Month event at the Natchitoches OJJ office. Social workers from various organizations in the region attended.

**PPOs Kelvin Jones, Heather Christophe and Brenda Sarpy** attended a Black History Month program at Northwestern State University.

**PPS Simon Sarpy, his son Ian Sarpy and nephew Ethan Sarpy** appeared in the Natchitoches Times in February. They had attended a rodeo team penning event in Henderson, Texas.

### A Road Map to Success

An OJJ youth begins life's journey after completing the program Reaching for the Stars. Congratulations, **Darinisha W.**

**By Jennifer Karle, Director of Cane River Children's Services**

The LaMOD training initiative has instilled the importance of safety and treatment as the foundations on which to build a road to success in the juvenile justice system. Darinisha W. found just that ... a safety net to catch her fall and treatment support that challenged her to grow. The collaborative

support of her probation officers, the court system, and the staff at Cane River Children's Services has helped Darinisha develop a useable road map to avoid the potholes in life.

This roadmap took some work! After coming into the juvenile justice system, Darinisha began her journey by working the residential treatment program at Cane River Children's Services. Personal accountability was hard. It was the people who made her feel safe enough to explore and redefine who she was, who she is, and who she can become. In time and with support, Darinisha began to see, not her faults, but her potential.

Cane River Children's Services also had a road map in their pocket. The map to success for kids at Cane River includes opportunities found along an internal continuum of care. Supportive treatment, therapy, accountability, and opportunities to practice new skills are incorporated in four different programs including a residential group home, transitional living home, and supervised apartment program and mentor homes. Darinisha benefited from all these support services along her path towards personal growth and maturity.



*Darinisha W. with her graduation certificate ...  
a part of her Road Map to Success!*

In March, Darinisha W. completed the Cane River Transitional Living Program. Turning 18 years of age was both exciting and scary for her. A plan for independent living, subsidized by benefactors of Cane River Children's Services, was put into place. You can now meet Darinisha at the door of her own apartment! You can also see her at work as

she is contributing to her own financial goals. Education is still part of her road map ... and based on her new skills and ability ... she will complete that journey too. From New Orleans, to Natchitoches, and the future beyond ... Darinisha W. now owns her own map to success!



*Front from left: Deloris White, Transitional Living; Darinisha W.; OJJ PPO Brenda Sarpy; Sara Griffith, Apartment Manager; Karolyn Beaudoin, I-Living Program Director. Back row: Jennifer Karle, Cane River CEO and Celeste Shaeffer, Residential Treatment.*

## Monroe Regional Office

### Staff Development and Training

Monroe OJJ completed the following training sessions in March: Blood Borne Pathogens, Drug Free Workplace, Sexual Harassment, Violence Free Workplace and General Safety. The training was conducted by **PPS Karl Wallace, PPS Gail Wilson, PPO3 Erica Hollingsworth** and **Program Specialist Walteree Barnes**.

Monroe OJJ would like to express our appreciation to **Raymond Lloyd** from Ware Youth Center, who traveled from Coushatta to Monroe to provide Chemical Weapons Training for our staff. And best of all, he didn't spray us!

**PPS Gail Wilson, PPO3 Jennifer Bible** and **PPO3 Willie Hunter** attend the CPTP class

"Managing Work Time Effectively" held at LSU Health Science Center.

**Program Specialist Walteree Barnes** and **PPS Linda Williams** provided training to Louisiana Mentor Health Care Recruiters.

### Congratulations

**PPO3 Jennifer Bible** and her **husband, J.R.**, are in the process of building a new house. Congratulations Jen and Junior!

In March, Monroe OJJ gave a baby shower for **Jeremy Fox** and his **wife Crystal**. Little **Macie Grace Fox** is due in April. Congratulations Jeremy and Crystal!



*Jeremy and Crystal enjoy their baby shower.*

During March, Monroe OJJ completed curfew checks.

**PPO3 Joel McNair** is to be congratulated for his work with twin youth **Roy F.** and **Royce F.** Roy graduated with his GED from NGYCP, and Royce graduated from the GED program at Monroe Housing Authority. Congratulations and GOOD JOB JOEL!

It is with heavy hearts that Monroe OJJ remembers **PPO3 Don Hamler** on the one year anniversary of his passing. We love him and miss him every day.

**PPO1 Reginald Chaptman** recently participated in rappelling at the North Delta Training Academy. **Captain Pat Stewart** gave **PPS Gail Wilson** a "heads up" and she was on site at the Fire Training Academy in

West Monroe to witness this event. For those of you who do not know Reggie, he is 6'6" tall and weighs 300 pounds (all muscle and not an ounce of fat). PPS Wilson says it was quite a show watching Reggie come off that tower...she only wishes she had had her camera.

**PPO1 Valarie Nordstrom** is attending the P&P P.O.S.T. Academy in Baton Rouge. Valarie has qualified on the P.O.S.T. firearms course and from the looks of that "night shoot" target, she had fun on the range. GO GIRL!



*PPO Valarie Nordstrom: Night Shoot...Nothing outside the 2 ring!*

## Lake Charles Regional Office

### Condolences

Lake Charles OJJ expresses condolences for the recent drowning death of one of our youth. **PPO Fred Fontenot** supervised this young man and had a close bond with him. They spent the entire day together prior to the young man's death. OJJ has provided a great deal of services to this family. He had great potential and will be missed.

### Good Going!

**PPO Jeff Haley, Ronald Gilchrist, Fred Fontenot, Monet Newman** plan to attend the Swashbuckler game with deserving youth. **PPO Hollie Comeaux** honored one of her youth and arranged for the mentor to accompany the youth.

**PPS Melissa Cross**, along with representatives from the Calcasieu Parish DA's office, Public Defender's Office and the S.A.N.E. Nurse, presented the Juvenile Sexual Offender Treatment Program PowerPoint to members of the Calcasieu Parish School Board, to get their permission to for us to have access to public school principals, so we may provide education to students on sex offenses. We were very well received and will be allowed to present to the principals in April.

A young lady under **PPO Monet Newman's** supervision successfully graduated from the Youth Challenge Program. Monet sent weekly motivational cards to the young lady while she was in the program.

A young lady in **PPO Hollie Comeaux's** caseload recently earned her GED.

**PPO Angie Stevens** recognized several of the youth in her caseload who had Honor Roll / Banner Roll accomplishments.

**PPO Rebecca Harmon** and **PPO Delisa Clark** attended week-long CIT training with the Sheriff's Office.

**PPO Jeff Haley** led our office in an ORM Annual Safety Audit in March and our results were extremely positive! Thank you, Jeff!

**PPO Karli Pullard, PPO Melissa Cross, PPO Monet Newman** and **PPO Jeff Haley** recently attended a Bias in Court training.

**PPO Angie Stevens** recruited a new McNeese State University intern to volunteer in our office.

**PPO Fred Fontenot** and **PPO Rebecca Harmon** attended NIMS Training for Trainers in Alexandria. NIMS is the National Incident Management System (Response Team/Emergency Preparedness), recognized by FEMA.



## Lafayette/Opelousas Regional Office

### Congratulations

**PPOs Chris and Andrea Potier** welcomed a beautiful baby boy, **Atticus**, on February 12.

**PPO Mike Waters** and his wife welcomed a son, **Jack**, on March 9.

### Programs Showcase our Youth

**New Directions** in Lafayette held its first Black History Month Program this year. The residents and staff worked hard to put on the program, which featured song, dance and storytelling. Several residents portrayed notable historic black figures, such as Benjamin Banneker, George Washington Carver, Thurgood Marshall and Barack Obama. **Education Specialist Lou Bertha Gloston** and **PPOs Chris Leblanc and Andre Harrison** attended the program. Andre commented, "I enjoyed the program, and anticipate and look forward to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Black History Program at New Directions of Lafayette."

The VOA Day Program in Lafayette held its "Stepping Up" Talent Show in February. **PPOs Justin Beasley, Tracy Flores, Cassandra Gardiner, Bobby Jesset, Nick Landry, Jody Osmer and Jamie Lynn Wallace** attended. **Cassandra** and **Nick** acted as judges for the event. The show was lots of fun, and the contestants all did a great job with their talents.

Winning 1<sup>st</sup> Place was **Jacolby G.**, from **PPO Jason McCraney's** caseload, with a poem he wrote and performed. Second place went to **Jasmine B.** from **PPO Mina Travis's** caseload, who also read a poem she had written. Placing 3<sup>rd</sup> was **Curtisha B.**, supervised by **PPO Deacon Jones** and **Kendarious S.** supervised by **Mina Travis**, who performed an interpretive dance. Other contestants were **Essense V.**, supervised by **PPO Bobby Jesset**; **David L.**, supervised by

**Mina**; **Aries A. and Denatia B.**, supervised by **Cassandra Gardner**; **Khristera S.**, supervised by **Nick** and **Destiny L.**, supervised by **PPO Mike Waters**.

**New Directions** also held a Founders Day Celebration in March. The founders of New Directions were honored, and distinguished guests included the **Hon. Lori Landry** and Youngsville **Mayor Wilson Viator**. OJJ was also well-represented, with **PPOs Bobby Jesset, Nick Landry, Chris Leblanc** and **Jason McCraney**, and **PPS Courtney Holderman** in attendance. The program included games, musical performances, speeches and skits performed by the residents. Lunch was also served. **Bobby Jesset** commented that the program "helped recognize the good that New Directions has brought to the youth, its staff and supporters, and to the community."

### Staff Instructors Hold Training Sessions

Thanks to our Firearms Instructors, **PPO Bret Gould** and **PPS Courtney Holderman**, for the Firearms Refresher Course in February.

Lafayette OJJ would like to thank PPCT instructors **RM Susan Miller** and **PPOs Lynette Broussard, Deacon Jones** and **Mina Travis** for the PPCT recertification course in March.

**PPOs Jamie Baronet, Justin Beasley, George Hebert** and **Blair Johnson** started the academy in February. We wish them the best of luck, and we know they'll do us proud!

Mardi Gras is a festive time of year, but, it's also a very busy time for **PPO Kevin Broussard**. For the past five years, he has been a member of the Krewe of Triton in Lafayette. Kevin handles publicity for the Krewe and was involved in planning the annual Mardi Gras ball. The Krewe rides in the Friday Night Street Parade in Lafayette, and Kevin was atop one of the floats.



*PPO Kevin Broussard, in the Krewe of Triton Mardi Gras parade.*

PPOs Kevin Broussard and Lynnette Broussard were guest lecturers for the Criminal Justice Probation and Parole class at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. They talked about what OJJ does, and the role of the probation officer in the court system, as well as in the field. Class members had many questions about the job, and a few even expressed a great deal of interest in becoming OJJ officers! Well done, Kevin and Lynette!

OJJ was well-represented at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure in Lafayette, to benefit breast cancer research and treatment. PPO Mina Travis is a breast cancer survivor and Lafayette OJJ turned out strong to celebrate Mina's courageous battle. Some participated in the 1-Mile Fun Run, others participated in the 5-K race and still others volunteered. It was a fantastic day to be outside, and over 9,000 people showed up for the fund-raiser to race for the cure.



*PPOs Jamie Lynn Wallace and Mina Travis at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure in Lafayette.*

## Jetson Center for Youth

### Highlight on Summer Dormitory

Great things are happening in Jetson's Summer Dormitory. Since late January, Summer youth and staff have set goals and are fully committed to the LaMOD process. During this time, Summer dorm has had no fights. The number of major and minor violations have decreased tremendously. In addition, two youth have been released and one stepped down to a group home, with three more pending, much to the delight of newly-appointed group leader **Derrick Anderson**, who credits the youth and staff, particularly **JJS Cherita Irvin**, who was named **Summer's Employee of the Month**.

We also have a **Youth of the Month** program, and **Youth Jyquincee C.** was the winner!

Summer dorm has taken a turn for the better and the best is yet to come.

### Phase 1 of LEAP /GEE at Scenic Alternative High School

Phase 1 of the statewide testing program was successfully accomplished in March. Thirty-one students in grades 8, 10, and 11 completed the requirements of Phase 1 of these important exams.

Our students were very serious during the testing sessions; in fact, the usual school noises were absent as students concentrated on the task at hand. The teachers diligently followed the strict regulations regarding this high-stakes testing. The results of this testing phase will be combined with Phase 2.

Phase 2 will be administered in April, with those 31 students plus students in grades 6, 7, and students taking LAA 2, which is the LEAP Alternate Assessment, Level 2.

If new students arrive after completion of Phase 1, they will make up that phase after they complete Phase 2 tests.

The dorm leaders and dorm staff assisted by escorting the youth to their testing site and having other activities for youth who were not tested. The education staff appreciates this teamwork.

### Youth Attend Kite Fest Louisiane

Six Jetson youth enjoyed a trip to Kite Fest Louisiane, held at the West Baton Rouge Soccer complex. The annual festival attracts kite fliers from all over the U.S. The kite festival ran for three days in April, offering children's educational classes and children's kite making workshops. There were kite design competitions, professional kite flying, inflatables and kite demonstrations.

The field trip was spearheaded by Life Skills Instructor **Denise Clause**. A number of staff accompanied the kids, as well as Ms. Clause, including **Director Daron Brown, JJS3 Jewel "Mama" Veal, Group Leader Derrick Anderson, Counselor Joe Lott** and **Counselor Jakouri Williams**.

The youth visited different stations at the festival and participated in a variety of activities. Their favorite activity was the BOL races, where a kite was strapped to their backs and they raced each other.



***BOL race at Kite Fest Louisiane.***

Youth who attended were chosen based on their academic and behavioral improvements.

Each teacher was asked to nominate three youth, and the six with the most votes were chosen. Those who were chosen were **Dionte W., Darren H., Romero R., Deshawn G., Jyquincee C.** and **De'Calvin P.**

Some of the youth had never flown a kite before, Ms. Clause said. They had the opportunity to learn to let their imagination take flight in a sport where the sky is literally the limit. They also learned interesting facts about kites from a character named Benjamin Franklin. Kites originated in China when a farmer tied a string on his hat to keep it from flying away. Kites have been flown for over 3,000 years, and one man even flew over the English Channel using a box kite.

With all the good food abounding at festivals, a funnel cake was purchased for each youth as a treat. Ms. Clause reports that she observed Dashawn speaking with a special-needs child, and when he thought no one was looking, he gave his funnel cake to the disabled child. "I was so proud of Dashawn for being so compassionate to another child," Ms. Clause said. "I really caught him doing a random act of kindness. We always talk about that in Life Skills classes. They are learning important life lessons on how to get along with others." Ms. Clause later presented Dashawn with a certificate celebrating his random act of kindness.

Following their morning at the kite fest, the youth and staff enjoyed a lunch buffet at Bayou Bistro in Brusly. The youth have been learning about etiquette, and having lunch in a restaurant gave staff an opportunity to reinforce the youths' table manners. They also had an impromptu math lesson, as Ms. Clause taught the youth how to pay the food bill and calculate the tip.

"In the Life Skills program, you have to make the teaching applicative to real life situations," Ms. Clause said. "We have to take the kids out in public so they can have real life experiences."



After the meal at the restaurant, Director Brown called a circle-up so the kids and staff could express their thoughts about the day's experiences. This is an important part of the LAMOD process.

The kids thoroughly enjoyed their outing and expressed their appreciation to the staff who made the trip possible. Director Brown said he plans to have field trips for Jetson kids monthly.



*De'Calvin P. getting ready for a BOL race.*

### JCY Hosts Basketball Competition

Jetson hosted a basketball competition with Bridge City in March. Youth and staff were packed into the gym for this rival match. Both teams had players who came to win. It was a healthy competition between these players.

The fans from BCCY and JCY cheered for their respective teams throughout the game. Great sportsmanship was shown by fans and players alike. This was the first game where "real" referees were present. The players showed respect to them and honored their calls, even the fouls.

Many dedicated staff contributed money so we could serve refreshments during the game. Group Leader Frances Bailey and youth prepared popcorn, cheese nachos and drinks. The youth served the spectators these treats.

The scores during each quarter were close, which indicated that these two teams were perfectly matched.

The outcome was that both teams were winners because of their sportsmanship and conduct. JCY staff looks forward to more sporting competitions and intramural events.



*Friendly rivals enjoy the game...foreground center is BCCY Director Linda London, right is JCY Director Daron Brown.*

## Hammond Regional Office

### SUPERSTAR!

**PPS Dawnita Hodge** was the Hammond OJJ **Superstar** for March. She was recognized by **RM Julie Eudy** for completing an NYTD survey on a youth who is on the caseload of a PPO who is currently in the Academy.

### EPICS (Effective Practices for Community Supervision)



*Audio recorder attached to a laptop*

The Hammond OJJ PPOs have begun implementation of the EPICS model in interviews with the youth. Audio recordings of youth interviews were electronically uploaded via the internet to the trainers with



the University of Cincinnati, and the first of several video conference coaching sessions was conducted. Assignments were given for the next monthly audio recording prior to the second video conference in April.

### Sometimes You've Just Got To Laugh



*Janice Lewis is a warrior! PPO3 Shirley Verberne snapped this photo of Administrative Coordinator 2 Janice Lewis. Shirley and Janice can always be counted on to boost morale in the office!*

## Central Office

### Congratulations

**HR Specialist Shenikka Ferguson** is engaged to be married to **Terry Matthews**. Their wedding will be held on July 30.

### Danny Woods: Budding TV Star

The Buttons and Bows of the Baton Rouge Chapter of Jack and Jill, Inc. were special guests on the WAFB Channel 9 Sunday morning news recently. Among the featured guests was **Danny R. Woods II**, the son of **Danny** and **OJJ Attorney Revettea Woods**.



*Danny Woods, II on the news desk between WAFB Anchor Keitha Nelson and Weather Anchor Jeff Morrow.*

Jack and Jill of America, Inc. is an organization of African-American mothers who nurture future leaders by strengthening children ages 2-19 through chapter programming, community service and

philanthropic giving. Jack and Jill of America, Inc. has a membership base of over 9,500 families and it is the oldest and largest African-American family organization in the United States. The organization is committed to ensuring that all children have the same opportunities in life.



### Pay it Forward

Quiet as an anonyMOUSE, a local elf started a sweet little personal morale-boosting program that everyone is enjoying. Person Unknown left a nice card and a little treat for someone, who "paid it forward" by bringing a little remembrance for someone else...who reciprocated by giving to another...you get the idea. Little treats and goodies (a handful of candies; a dollar for the drink machine; a teensy candle...) are popping up all over central office, all anonyMOUSEly...we appreciate the sentiments and we are enjoying sneaking around to deliver our little treats. Thanks to you, whoever you are, for bringing needed smiles to central office.

### OJJ Daughters Making Us Proud

**Xzania Perzette White**, daughter of Program Specialist **Yezette White**, received summer internship offers from Yale University, Vanderbilt University and a children's program in Boston. She chose Vanderbilt, where she hopes to attend graduate school after graduation from Howard University in 2012. Xzania will be off to Vanderbilt, in Nashville this summer to study with psychology professors and will travel with them to present at a symposium. She will receive a stipend and housing on the Vanderbilt's campus. She was recently inducted into the Psi Chi National Honor Society for psychology majors.

**Elena Russo**, daughter of **Communications Director Jerel Giarrusso**, was invited to serve as one of two judges for a performing arts competition held by the Grand Bahama Performing Arts Society, in Freeport, Grand Bahama, in April. High school students competed for a scholarship to the French Woods Festival of the Performing Arts summer camp in upstate New York, where Elena serves as technical director over the camp's theatres every summer. Contestants were interviewed prior to auditions, and presented a 3 - 5 minute performance piece, wrote essays and presented letters of reference from their school music, dance or drama teacher. Elena is about to complete her Masters of Fine Arts in Theatre Stage Management at the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music.

## Bridge City Center for Youth

### Riverside Alternative High School Announces Honor Roll Students

We are proud to recognize our Honor Roll students who maintained A or B averages for the 3rd quarter of the 2010-2011 school year.

**A Students:** Charles B., Kelzon C., Corey C., Skylier H., Antonio M., Joshua M., Willie M., Anthony P., Wesley P., Randell S., Roberto V. and Joseph W.

**B Students:** Alberto A., Kaine B., Devaunquez B., Warren C., Jeremy C., Delvin D., Devonta D., Kyron F., Paul F., Shane F., Stanton G., Dexter J., Shawn M., Tristan P., Andy R., Leonard R., Roger R., Benjamin S., Cody S., Jemerious W. and Larry W.

## Welcome to our Volunteer Chaplain



Bridge City Center for Youth is proud to announce that **Pastor Torin Sanders** is our new volunteer chaplain. Originally from New York, Pastor Sanders graduated magna cum laude from Howard University in

Washington, D.C. with a bachelor's degree in Philosophy. He also holds a Masters in Social Work from Tulane University, and attended Union Baptist College and Theological Seminary in New Orleans. Pastor Sanders was ordained by the First District Baptist Association in 1993 and has served as Senior Pastor for 6<sup>th</sup> Baptist Church since 1997. Dr. Sanders is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

## BCCY Travels to JCY for Basketball Competition

The BCCY basketball team traveled to Jetson in March for a thriller of a rematch. The efforts of both teams were outstanding, which kept staff and youth ecstatic the entire game.

After each quarter the scores were either tied or down by a couple. In the end BCCY was victorious by only one point. The final scores ended up 67 to 66 with a free throw by **Derrick S.** This was truly an NBA playoff type game. Each youth played a significant part during the game, some cheered for them, some made sure when they returned to the bench they had water and towels. One youth even kept the books and notified the coaches when someone was in foul trouble. This showed how each youth was committed to being a team player.



*Getting ready for a free throw....*

We are very proud of the accomplishments these youth have shown to become part of the team. Without dedication, determination and hard work this would have not been possible.

A special thanks to **Director Daron Brown** and his staff at Jetson for showing such wonderful hospitality.



*Coach  
Ricky  
Wright  
calls the  
shots.*

## Baton Rouge Regional Office

### Employee of the Month

Congratulations to **PPS Michelle Thomas**, who was selected February **Employee of the Month**.

Congratulations to TO Jason Jones "Employee of the Month" for March. TO Jones coworkers nominated him because he knows how to put a smile on your face. He keeps you laughing with him, at him and sometimes he'll make you laugh at yourself. He makes the day a little nicer.

### You Look Good

**PPO Yolonda Latimer, PPO Leslie Jones, SSC Jennifer Anderson and PPS Michelle Thomas** are looking good this month for Operation "Yes I Can." The group, along with some of our female clients attended the "Yes I Can" all girls conference at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Baton Rouge, held from 8 AM to 5 PM on a Saturday. The conference is held annually to bring young females together to support, empower and encourage them while having a fun and uplifting experience together. There were music, games, door prizes, a talk forum, exercise and vendors. Several female organizations and support groups from all over Louisiana attended.

It was very uplifting to see so many organizations whose primary goal is to empower and support our young girls. Although each adult was charged a fee of \$50, there was no charge for the youth to attend. A special thanks to PPO Latimer and PPO Jones who began their journey around 5:00 a.m. to bring the youth to the conference.

We're watching you all and we know you are in it to win it, even if it means giving up your Saturday. Thanks y'all!

**Transport Officer Jason Jones** is looking good for Operation "I wanna go home." Jason left his home on a cold winter morning during inclement weather to help a youth being released from Swanson return to his home. While in route to the youth's home, Jason and the youth were delayed by an iced-over bridge, which was closed by State Police. Although delayed, Jason and the youth returned to their homes safely. We're watching you, Jason Jones, and we thank you, the youth thanks you, and his parents thank you for bringing him home safely.

## Farewell

Baton Rouge OJJ said farewell to **PPO Stefanie Krygowski** and congratulations on her promotion to supervisor in the Lafayette Office. Stefanie has been a PPO for over 9 years, 3 of which have been with BR-OJJ. She is a PPCT Instructor and a dedicated officer. Stefanie, we're glad you're moving on up but we will miss you.

## Kudos

Kudos to all of the staff who participated in the CSoC Stakeholders meeting. The meeting was very informative and staff was able to gain a lot of knowledge about the program and how it will impact the services provided to the families we serve.

Kudos to **PPO Stefanie Krygowski** for her support in the P&P POST Academy. This is Stefanie's second time teaching part of the 40 hour PPCT class in the POST Academy.

Kudos to **AC Christina Falcon** who recently began ITT to pursue an Associate's Degree in Computer Networking. Christina is very good with computers and she says her coworkers encouraged her to go back to school. She also plans to pursue a bachelor's degree as well.

Kudos to our Safety Officers, **PPS Cobie Chauvin** and **OC Irma Gonzales** for making sure we pass our Safety Audit every year. The Safety Audit is comprised of many different components such as Fire Arms Policy, Building Safety, First Aid, CPR, Purchasing, Vehicle Logs, Hazmat and Chemical Safety and a host of other things. We know at times safety is challenging and we appreciate everything you do.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to **PPO Andrew Bonner** for completing the first Post-POST Academy. The Post-POST Academy was sponsored and taught by our own OJJ leaders from Central

Office, Social Services and Training Division. The academy helped to re-acquaint OJJ officers with the mission and vision of OJJ following the POST Academy.

## Trainings

Fire Arms training  
Updated CPR Training for Train the Trainers  
Hazmat Training for Emergency Response Team Leaders  
PPCT - office  
CSOC – office  
Quarterly Supervisor Training – supervisors  
Firearms Classroom - office

## Alexandria Regional Office

**PO1 Cory Laborde** recently left Alexandria OJJ. Cory will be missed by all.

The Alexandria region has been busy lately. Recently, **PPO3 Donna DeSoto** presented a speech to Marksville Lion's Club and the Bunkie Rotary Club. This was an opportunity to bring the community up-to-date on the progress of LAMOD. Donna also shared some of changes for OJJ which include the SAVRY and how this will help the probation officers with the youth they serve and the overall progress of the reform that is taking place in Louisiana.

For the third straight year, Louisiana College invited OJJ to its job fair. **PPO3 Donna DeSoto** and **PPO3 Lori Johnson** set up shop at the event and promoted OJJ and encouraged youth that if they wanted to make a change in a young person's life, OJJ is the way to go. The instructor for the criminal justice class made sure all students came by our booth and they learned about evidence-based practices and how this is being applied to programs offered in the community. Of course, there were special treats for visitors, which included an OJJ coffee mug filled with candy, stickers and pencils.



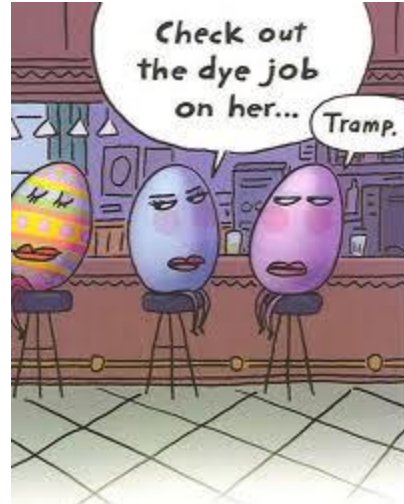
We had our annual Safety Audit, which was very successful. Thanks to **PPO3 Donna Desoto**, who worked extremely hard to prepare for the audit. To show how much time and effort Donna put into preparation, we passed the audit with 100 percent.



**PPO2 Robert Harris** and **PPO3 Rodney McNeal** attended a graduation ceremony for youth **Kelvin H.** at Renaissance Home for Youth. Congratulations to Kelvin, who received his GED and has already taken his ACT and enrolled at LSU at

Alexandria.

**PPO1 Jessica Howard** is attending the POST Academy held in Baton Rouge. We wish Jessica well.



**Recipe of the Month**  
**BCCY Culinary Arts & Occupations**  
**Chef Ronald J. Sonnier, CEC**



The Culinary Arts program at BCCY has some great news to report. Recently the students were presented with the opportunity to take the National ServSafe Certification exam to become certified in high food safety standards. The ServSafe program was created by the food service industry, for the food service industry. The training helps people understand all the food safety risks faced by those who work with food. The program presented by Certified ServSafe instructors through the National Restaurant Association introduces basic information needed to know to serve food safely. Seven students were tested; six became certified and were presented their National Certification certificates and gold medallions at the recent Black History Program. I also took the exam at the same time to get my Certification as a ServSafe instructor, and I passed.



*Five of the students at BCCY who received their certification (left to right) Glenn C., Christopher T., Joseph W., Raymond A. and Josh M.*



*Certificates and medallions presented to the students.*



*Chef Sonnier with student Joseph W. and OJJ Title I Director James Ed Green.*



*Chef Sonnier with student Glenn C. and OJJ Title I Director James Ed Green.*

The spring and summer months are the time for seafood and crawfish and, we often look for different ways to prepare them. This month I have two great recipes I'm sure will please the seafood lovers in your family.



## Eggplant Seafood Casserole



- 3 large eggplants - peeled and diced
- 1 pound fresh shrimp - peeled and cut in half
- 1 pound crab claw meat
- 1 stick of butter
- 1 bunch small green onions - chopped
- 1 medium onion - chopped
- 1 medium bell pepper - chopped
- ½ cup chopped celery
- ½ cup fresh parsley - chopped
- 2 large cloves garlic - chopped
- 8 tablespoons Parmesan Cheese
- 1 cup seasoned bread crumbs

Boil the diced eggplant in 2 quarts of water until tender. Drain well in colander. In a heavy skillet melt butter and sauté vegetables until tender. Add the shrimp and cook until shrimp turn pink. Add Parmesan cheese, crab meat, bread crumbs, salt, black pepper and red pepper flakes to taste. Put all ingredients into a 2 quart buttered casserole dish. Sprinkle top with bread crumbs and dot with butter. Heat @ 325 degrees for 30-40 minutes to get hot. Garnish with lemon slices. Serves 4 - 6 people. Bon appetit - Chef Ron Sonnier



## Cajun Crawfish Cornbread



Serves about 12

- 1 lb. crawfish tails
- Tony Chachere's Original Seasoning
- 1 cup yellow cornmeal and ½ cup all purpose flour
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. salt (or less, according to taste)
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup chopped bell pepper
- 1/2 cup canola oil
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
- 1 (14.75-oz.) can cream-style corn
- 1 (4-oz.) jar pimientos, drained
- 1 1/2 tbs. chopped jalapeño peppers

Season crawfish with Tony Chachere's Original Seasoning. Cover and place in refrigerator for a couple of hours. Combine all ingredients. Pour into a 9x13-inch baking pan that has been sprayed with nonstick vegetable spray. Bake in a pre-heated 350degree oven for 35-45 minutes or until dish is nicely browned.

# The Inside Scoop...of OJJ

*The Inside Scoop...of OJJ* is published monthly to communicate with and about OJJ staff in offices and facilities throughout the state, about agency activities, happenings and items of interest.

*The Inside Scoop...of OJJ* is produced by the Central Office with input from staff statewide.

...until next month

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